IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic switching device, ~~in particular a contactor or a power circuit breaker,~~ comprising:

~~with~~ a housing ~~(6+7),~~;

~~a~~ a drive solenoid ~~(1),~~;

a yoke ~~(2),~~;

an armature ~~(3)~~; and

~~a~~ at least one contact ~~(4)~~,

~~the~~ the drive solenoid ~~(1)~~, the yoke ~~(2)~~, the armature ~~(3)~~ and the at least one contact ~~(4)~~ being mounted in the housing ~~(6+7)~~,

~~the~~ the drive solenoid ~~(1)~~, the yoke ~~(2)~~ and the armature ~~(3)~~ being inductively intercoupled, so that, when an inrush current ~~(I)~~ is applied to the drive solenoid ~~(1)~~, the armature ~~(3)~~ is~~can be~~ displaceableed into a pickup position,

~~the~~ the displacement of the armature ~~(3)~~ into the pickup position allowing the contact ~~(4)~~ to be directly or indirectly actuated,

~~the~~ the yoke ~~(2)~~ containing pulverulent magnetic material ~~(9)~~,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the drive solenoid ~~(1)~~ and the yoke ~~(2)~~ are cast with each other by ~~means~~ way of a permanently elastic casting compound ~~(12)~~ to form a block.

2. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the yoke ~~(2)~~ and the housing ~~(6)~~ are cast with each other by ~~means~~ use of a casting compound ~~(12)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claims 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the drive solenoid ~~(1)~~, the yoke ~~(2)~~ and the housing ~~(6)~~ are cast with each other by ~~means~~ use of a unitary casting compound ~~(12)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~one of the above claims, characterized~~claim 1, wherein ~~in that~~ the housing ~~(6+7)~~ comprises an upper housing part ~~(7)~~ and a lower housing part ~~(7)~~, ~~which are~~ detachably connected to each other,

~~wherein t~~~~in that t~~he lower housing part ~~(6) consists~~includes, at least partly, ~~of~~ a casting material ~~(13)~~ and wherein ~~in that~~ the drive solenoid ~~(1)~~ and the yoke ~~(2)~~ are connected to the casting material ~~(13)~~ by ~~means~~ way of the permanently elastic casting material ~~(12)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the casting material ~~(13)~~ is a hard casting material.

6. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~, ~~characterized in that~~wherein fastening elements ~~(8)~~ for connecting the upper housing part ~~(7)~~ to the lower housing part ~~(6)~~ to each other are arranged in the casting material ~~(13)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 4, ~~5 or 6, characterized in that~~wherein fastening elements ~~(14)~~ for connecting the lower housing part ~~(6)~~ to a fastening surface ~~(15)~~ are arranged in the lower housing part ~~(6)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 1 ~~one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ wherein the pulverulent magnetic material ~~(9)~~ is sintered material.

9. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~one of the above claims, characterized in that~~claim 1, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material ~~(9)~~ is mixed with a polymer compound~~, for example epoxy resin~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~one of the above claims, characterized in that~~claim 1, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material ~~(9)~~ surrounds at least one of a soft iron core ~~(11)~~, a highly permeable material ~~(11)~~ and~~/or~~ a permanent magnet ~~(12)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein~~one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ a sensor ~~(16)~~, ~~which is~~ inductively coupled to a conductor ~~(5)~~ connected to the contact ~~(4)~~ by ~~means~~ way of a coupling element ~~(17)~~ containing a pulverulent magnetic material ~~(9)~~, is arranged in the housing ~~(6+7)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the sensor ~~(16)~~ is

formed as at least one of a magnetic field sensor ~~or as~~and a flux-change sensor.

13. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 11~~ or 12~~, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the sensor ~~(16)~~ and the coupling element ~~(17)~~ are cast with each other.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the switching device is at least one of a contactor and a power circuit breaker.

17. (New) The switching device as claimed in claim 5, wherein fastening elements for connecting the upper housing part to the lower housing part to each other are arranged in the casting material.

18. (New) The switching device as claimed in claim 5, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.

19. (New) The switching device as claimed in claim 6, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.

20. (New) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material is mixed with an epoxy resin.

21. (New) The switching device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the sensor and the coupling element are cast with each other.